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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,773	07/17/2003	Yoshihito Osawa	1639.1034	9162

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EXAMINER

ANTHONY, JOSEPH DAVID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1714

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/620,773

Applicant(s)

OSAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph D. Anthony

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

FINAL REJECTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In independent claim 1, line 6, the phrase: "pressure vessel" is indefinite and should be replaced with the phrase —pressurized vessel--.

In independent claim 1, lines 8-10, the phrase: "contacting the raw material of the lubricant with a supercritical carbon dioxide under a predetermined condition in the ***pressure vessel to extract perfluoropolyether compounds for removing ionic impurities,***" [emphasis added] is totally confusing in regards to what is actually being done. The examiner suggests substituting said indefinite phrase with the following phrase to correct this problem: --contacting the raw material of the lubricant with supercritical carbon dioxide under a predetermined condition in said pressurized vessel to extract ionic impurities from the raw material of the lubricant comprising a perfluoropolyether,--.

Independent claims 7 and 10-14 are all indefinite for all the same reasons independent claim 1 is indefinite and thus need to be corrected as such.

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Independent claims 4 and 15 are indefinite because the two recitations of the phrases: "pressure vessel" are indefinite and should be replaced with the phrases —pressurized vessel—.

Dependent claims 2-3, 5-6 and 8-9 are being rejected here because they are dependent on rejected base claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kazuali (JP2001-164279, publication date 06/19/2001, cited on IDS filed 7/17/03) in view of evidentiary reference "Fomblin Z Derivatives" Product Data Sheet by Solvay Solexix, Inc. 12/13/2002.

Please see pages 2-4 of the PTO Office Action mailed 12/14/2005 for the details of this prior-art rejection.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 03/14/06 have been fully considered but are not persuasive to put the application in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Additional examiner comments are set forth next. The examiner has accepted

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applicant's arguments for patentability of "method" claims 1-9 over the previously made prior-art rejection over Kazuali (JP2001-164279, publication date 06/19/2001, cited on IDS filed 7/17/03) in view of evidentiary reference "Fomblin Z Derivatives" Product Data Sheet by Solvay Solexix, Inc. 12/13/2002. However, applicant's implied assertion that claims 10-15 are also patentable over said prior-art rejection, because they are in effect "product-by-process" claims is not accepted by the examiner. Applicant is reminded that "product-by-process" claims are in fact "product" claims and the process of making is given little patentable weight outside of a clear and convincing showing that the product made by the claimed process is in fact new and unobvious over the prior-art. Since applicant has set forth no such showing, it is held by the examiner that the product produced by the process taught by Kazuali, does in fact anticipate applicant's claimed product.

Finally, Applicant's Terminal Disclaimer has been approved by the PTO.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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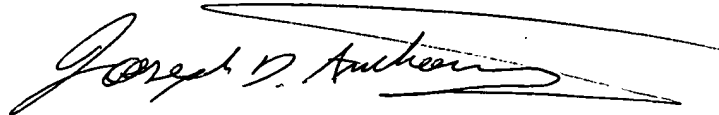
mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Prior-Art Cited But Not Applied

7. Any prior-art reference which is cited on FORM PTO-892 but not applied, is cited only to show the general state of the prior-art at the time of applicant's invention.

Examiner Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Joseph D. Anthony whose telephone number is (571) 272-1117. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan, can be reached on (571) 272-1119. The centralized FAX machine number is (571) 273-8300. All other papers received by FAX will be treated as Official communications and cannot be immediately handled by the Examiner.



Joseph D. Anthony
Primary Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1714

7/7/06